



# Wickham Skeith Parish Council

## MINUTES of PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held **MONDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2020** by videoconference

Present: Cllrs T Thorogood (Chair), R Palmer, K Knights, Cllrs Warboys (MSDC) and Stringer (SCC), H Roberts (Clerk) and 1 member of the public. Apologies received and accepted: Cllrs M Freeman and M Blair.

- 1 14/09/20: Chair's Welcome: The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming those in attendance.
- 2 14/08/20: Declarations of Interest and dispensations: none.
- 3 14/09/20: Minutes of Meeting: Minutes of Meeting held 14th July 2020 were **approved** by all Councillors. It was **agreed** the Chair's signing of the minutes would be done outside of the meeting.
- 4 14/09/20: Village Forum

A member of the public had emailed the Council with concerns about traffic speeds through the village. This was discussed under the Community Speed Watch agenda item 5.5.1.

The village Tree Warden brought to the Council's attention some recent and proposed tree felling: willow at Jack's Barn; small-set walnut at Spring Cottage; eucalyptus at Homeleigh, with additional work on a walnut. The tree warden had reviewed these and did not have any objections. **It was agreed** the Council would include a reminder of the village's conservation area in the village newsletter. The Tree Warden also mentioned some trees on private land that were at risk of obstructing public footpaths. The Council re-affirmed that it is not able to carry out remedial action on private land. **It was agreed** that the Clerk, in consultation with the Tree Warden, would circulate a list of Tree Preservation Orders to the Council.

- 5 14/09/20: Reports from County and District Councillors, Police, Parish Clerk and Parish Councillors

5.1 14/09/20: SCC: Cllr Stringer's reports for August and September are available on the parish council's website. Main points:

- Covid-19 update.
- Sizewell C: SCC withdraws support.
- Closure of Age UK.
- Climate Emergency recommendations report published.
- Changes to Children's Centres.
- Cabinet agrees £65m loan for third Lowestoft crossing.
- Infrastructure Board established to oversee costs of large projects

5.2 14/09/20: MSDC: Cllr Warboys' report is available on the parish council's website. Main points:

- Update on Joint Local Plan.
- Update on consultation for changes to the planning system.
- Response to Govt. white paper on planning reform.
- Gateway 14 consultation.
- Recovery Action Planning for businesses.
- Wellbeing NHS.
- Home but not Alone.
- Locality Awards. Cllr Warboys requested anyone to get in touch if they of a community group in need of some funding.
- Disabled Facilities Grant. Cllr Warboys asked anyone who needs any kind of adaptation to their home to please get in touch.

### Wickham Skeith Parish Council

**Chair:** Tim Thorogood 01449 766757      **Parish Cllrs:** Kevin Knights      01449 767708  
Michael Blair      01449 766640  
Margarita Freeman      01449 767009  
**Parish Clerk:** Huw Roberts 0777 180 8677      Richard Palmer      07376 142447

5.3 14/09/20: Suffolk Police. Report provided by Clerk based on Suffolk Police newsletter. One crime was reported in the area in July 2020.

5.4 14/09/20: Parish Clerk

- Website accessibility. Update to councillors sent 24th July 2020. The initial evaluation form has been produced. Changes to the website are still to be made, but it is anticipated these will be completed shortly.
- Village Green. Village Green document circulated to Councillors. Land Registry search may be re-submitted, but Village Recorder may be able to confirm ownership. Village Recorder is interested in reviewing the Council's file to take copies – date to be arranged. Suffolk County Council Archive may take copies of the documents but are not accepting any documents at present.
- Draft policies for Information Retention and Data Protection and Processing – work ongoing.
- Facebook and Twitter accounts details for Wattisham Parish Council shared with councillors.

5.5 14/09/20: Parish Councillors

5.5.1 14/09/20: Community Speed Watch. It was agreed at the last Council meeting that Cllr Knights will pass the speed-gun battery and key to Cllr Blair, and that Cllrs will send Cllr Blair their details for the rota for volunteers for Speed Watch. Cllr Stringer said he would request that the appropriate SCC authority move the speed indicator pole to the Finningham end of the village. **It was agreed** that the Clerk would check if the Council, laptop has the speed-gun software on it, with a view to start collecting statistics.

5.5.2 14/09/20: General Data Protection Regulation. Nothing to report.

5.5.3 14/09/20: Community Emergency Plan. The Emergency Plan is still active; the Council will review whether to close the Plan as covid restrictions are lifted.

5.5.4 14/09/20: Defibrillator. Not discussed.

6 14/09/20: Correspondence Received

- Quiet Lanes Suffolk. Circulated to Cllrs 18th July 2020. Quiet Lanes are a statutory designation for single track roads. **It was agreed** the Council would not submit an expression interest.
- Headway Suffolk. Newsletter circulated to Cllrs 18th July 2020.
- Healthwatch Suffolk Digital health and care survey. Published in village newsletter.
- SALC Planning webinars. Info circulated to Cllrs 25th August 2020.
- NALC Planning consultation. Circulated to Cllrs 25th August 2020.
- Team Doctor trial. Info circulated to Cllrs 25th August 2020.
- SALC Mid-Suffolk Area Forum: 17th Sept 2020. Info circulated to Cllrs 25th August 2020.
- Licensing Policy consultation. Circulated to Cllrs 27th August 2020.
- Bacton church re-opening guidance. Email circulated to Cllrs 8th September 2020.
- MidSuffolk District Council Free Composting event. Circulated to Cllrs 8th September 2020. Publicized on Council website.
- Insurance renewal. Discussed under Finance agenda item, agenda item 7.2.
- Enquiry from resident regarding traffic. Discussed under Community Speed Watch agenda item 5.5.1.
- Enquiry from resident tree felling. Discussed in the village forum, agenda item 4.

7 14/09/20: Finance

7.1 14/09/20: Financial position as of 31st August 2020 was presented by the RFO and **approved** by the Council. It was **agreed** the Chair's approval signature would be obtained outside of the meeting.

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7.2 14/09/20: The Council's insurance policy was reviewed. **It was agreed** to renew the current policy with no changes.

7.3 14/09/20: Invoices for Approval. The Council **approved** the payment of an invoice for £186.74 for the renewal of the insurance. It was **agreed** this cheque would be signed outside of the meeting. It was noted that the Land Registry had returned a cheque for £7 for the village green land search. **It was agreed** the Clerk will re-submit the search with specific co-ordinates, with a new cheque.

#### 8 14/09/20: Planning Matters

8.1 14/09/20: The Council noted the application: DC/20/03609: Notification of Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Pollard 1no. Willow tree to 5-10m: Jacks Barn, The Green, Wickham Skeith, Eye Suffolk IP23 8LX. The Council had no comment.

8.2 14/09/20: The Council noted the decision on: DC/20/02506: Erection of a conservatory/porch (following demolition of existing porch): Holly End, 133 Grange Road, Wickham Skeith, Eye Suffolk IP23 8ND.

#### 9 14/09/20: Casual Vacancy

As no election had been requested by the residents, **it was agreed** by a unanimous vote that Mr. Tom Rowe would be co-opted onto the Council. Due to covid restrictions, **it was agreed** that Mr. Rowe would sign the necessary declaration form as soon as possible after the meeting.

**It was agreed** that the remaining vacancy would be advertised again in the village newsletter.

#### 10 14/09/20: Working Parties

10.1 14/09/20: Village green

This was discussed under agenda items 4 and 5.4. It was noted that Cllr Knights would speak with the Tree Warden.

10.2 14/09/20: Grimmer Fishing. Not discussed.

#### 11 14/09/20: Matters for next agenda

The Clerk reminded councillors that at the next meeting will be the first consideration of next year's budget.

#### 12 14/09/20: Next Meeting: Monday, 9th November 2020.

Meeting closed at 9:35 pm

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
Chair

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